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## **Hardiman tops list of vetoed bills**

Hopes issues can be revisited

**LANSING** – Sen. Bill Hardiman, R-Kentwood, was surprised to learn that he led in the number of policy-related bills vetoed by the governor during his first Senate term.

Hardiman had six pieces of legislation vetoed in the last four years, including a bill in last year's welfare reform package that strengthened training and education requirements for welfare recipients. It was tie-barred with the House's 48-month lifetime limit bill that was vetoed.

"I always strive to be the best at everything I do, but this isn't what I had in mind," Hardiman said. "The governor did sign seventeen of my bills into law, but next year I would be happy to pass my title of having the most bills vetoed."

Other bills that were vetoed included a bill that was part of a judicial restructuring package; a bill in a start-up business tax credit package; a bill in the marriage/divorce reform package; a bill that would have banned the administration from establishing administrative rules designed to benefit nursing homes that agree to collective bargaining; and legislation that allowed health maintenance organizations to establish more flexible health care plans.

"All these bills were good ideas and merit further consideration," Hardiman said. "I hope during the next four years we can revisit these issues and that the governor will take a second look."

The governor did sign two of the vetoed bills into law after they were reintroduced; Senate Bill 88 allows for flexibilities costs for co-payments, coinsurance and deductibles for enrollees of health maintenance organizations. SB 883 added an additional circuit court judgeship in Kent County.

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